

Introduced by Senator Figueroa

February 22, 2005

An act to amend Section 104200 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to cancer.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 615, as introduced, Figueroa. Cervical cancer.

Existing law requires the State Department of Health Services to conduct the Cervical Cancer Community Awareness Campaign. Existing law requires the campaign to provide awareness, assistance, and information regarding cervical cancer.

This bill would require the campaign to include provider education aimed at promoting the awareness of human papillomavirus and its link to cervical cancer.

Existing law establishes the Cervical Cancer Fund in the State Treasury to be expended by the department, upon appropriation by the Legislature, for the campaign. Existing law provides that the campaign shall not be implemented unless and until funds are appropriated for that purpose in the annual Budget Act.

This bill would delete this condition on the implementation of the campaign. The bill, instead, would authorize the receipt of voluntary contributions that would be deposited in the Cervical Cancer Fund, and would make the continued implementation of the campaign contingent upon the receipt of voluntary contributions.

This bill would require the department to report to the chairs and vice chairs of the health committees of both houses of the Legislature, on or before January 1, 2007, on the progress of the campaign.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
2 following:

3 (a) Cervical cancer is highly preventable and is the only cancer
4 with one known cause—the human papillomavirus (HPV).

5 (b) Even with this knowledge, the American Cancer Society
6 estimates that in the United States 10,520 cases of invasive
7 cervical cancer were diagnosed in 2004, and 3,900 women died
8 of the disease. In 2004, an estimated 1,735 California women
9 were diagnosed with invasive cervical cancer and 470 California
10 women died from the disease.

11 (c) Approximately one-half of the women who are diagnosed
12 with cervical cancer are between the ages of 35 and 55 years.

13 (d) Ethnic patterns of cervical cancer in the United States are
14 quite different from those of any other cancer of the female
15 reproductive system. The highest age-adjusted incidence rate
16 occurs among Vietnamese women, at 43 incidents per 100,000
17 women. An incidence rate of 15 incidents per 100,000 women or
18 higher occurs among Alaska Native, Korean, and Hispanic
19 women. Black women have the highest age-adjusted mortality
20 rate from cervical cancer and are followed by Hispanic women.

21 (e) In California, 800,000 women 18 years of age and older
22 who need to be routinely screened have never had a Pap test and
23 most Californians have not heard of HPV or its association with
24 cervical cancer.

25 (f) Direct annual medical costs for treating symptoms of HPV
26 infection in the United States are estimated at \$1.6 billion, and
27 the cost of cervical cancer screening programs (Pap smears) is \$5
28 billion to \$6 billion every year.

29 (g) The Legislature commends the existing educational efforts
30 of the State Department of Health Services and finds that the
31 Cervical Cancer Community Awareness Campaign should be
32 expanded to address the link between human papillomavirus and
33 cervical cancer.

34 SEC. 2. Section 104200 of the Health and Safety Code is
35 amended to read:

36 104200. (a) The department shall conduct the Cervical
37 Cancer Community Awareness Campaign to do all of the
38 following:

1 (1) To provide awareness, assistance, and information
2 regarding cervical cancer. *These efforts shall include provider*
3 *education aimed at promoting the awareness of human*
4 *papillomavirus (HPV) and its link to cervical cancer.*
5 *Information regarding prevention, early detection, options for*
6 *testing, and treatment costs shall be included.*

7 (2) To promote the availability of preventive treatment for
8 cervical cancer for women in California.

9 (3) To perform other activities related to cervical cancer.

10 (b) (1) For purposes of the Cervical Cancer Community
11 Awareness Campaign, the department shall establish a study of
12 and research regarding cervical cancer.

13 (2) The study and research shall contain, but not be limited to,
14 statistical information in order to target appropriate regions of the
15 state with the Cervical Cancer Community Awareness
16 Campaign. The statistical information shall include, but not be
17 limited to, age, ethnicity, region, and socioeconomic status of the
18 women in the state in relation to cervical cancer. The research
19 shall provide studies of current treatment evolutions, possible
20 cures, and the availability of preventive care for women in the
21 state in relation to cervical cancer.

22 ~~(e) The department shall adopt regulations to implement the~~
23 ~~Cervical Cancer Awareness Campaign.~~

24 ~~(d)~~

25 (c) To the extent feasible and appropriate, the Cervical Cancer
26 Community Awareness Campaign shall be incorporated into
27 existing cancer awareness programs operated by the department.

28 ~~(e) The Cervical Cancer Community Awareness Campaign~~
29 ~~shall not be implemented unless and until funds are appropriated~~
30 ~~for that purpose in the annual Budget Act.~~

31 ~~(f)~~

32 (d) *On or before January 1, 2007, the department shall report*
33 *to the chairs and vice chairs of the health committees of both*
34 *houses of the Legislature on the progress of the campaign. The*
35 *report shall do all of the following:*

36 (1) *Provide an overview of progress being made in fulfilling*
37 *the duties of the Cervical Cancer Community Awareness*
38 *Campaign.*

1 (2) *Recommend strategies or actions to reduce the occurrence*
2 *of cervical cancer among, and the burden caused by cervical*
3 *cancer on, women in the state.*

4 (3) *Review statistical and qualitative data on the prevalence*
5 *and burden of cervical cancer in California.*

6 (e) There is hereby established in the State Treasury the
7 Cervical Cancer Fund to be expended by the State Department of
8 Health Services, upon appropriation by the Legislature, *solely* for
9 the Cervical Cancer Community Awareness Campaign.

10 (f) *The department may receive voluntary contributions to*
11 *support its activities pursuant to this section. The contributions*
12 *shall be deposited into the Cervical Cancer Fund. The continued*
13 *implementation of this section shall be contingent upon the*
14 *receipt of voluntary contributions.*